

or means in the conversion of Saul. The two important agencies were the *Word* and the *Spirit*, and these are the two essential agencies which must operate as the power of God in every conversion, and in so far as these were the agencies in Saul's conversion that conversion is not unlike thousands of others since that day. The Word and the Spirit are still the God ordained means in the conversion of men and women and will be so long as there are souls to save.

Missions

Missionary Items

At a prayer meeting in England a good old man in humble life prayed the following very significant prayer: "O Lord, may we not only be justified and sanctified, but may we be missionarified as well." That was a comprehensive prayer including in one single sentence all that goes to make a model Christian. "Missionarified" members is the great need of the Brethren church as well as of all other churches.

Mission—what is the meaning of the term? It is the message with which a person is charged, or that with which one is entrusted. When therefore we talk of Christian missions we mean the gospel message and the plans or methods of sending it forth to those who have never heard it. With this message every child of God is entrusted and there are but two ways of fulfilling the mission, personally carrying the message to others, or helping with our means to send others to deliver the message. One or the other or both of these we *must* do or be accounted unfaithful in the day of the Lord's coming.

Miss Louise B. Pierson, a daughter of Rev. Arthur T. Pierson, editor of the *Missionary Review of the World*, has gone to India to take up work in Calcutta in connection with the Woman's Union Missionary Society of New York.

Jimmie, where did you get this five cents?" "Its the money you gave me for the heathen, mamma." "Then why do you keep it?" "My teacher said I was a heathen."

If the United States can spend \$75,000,000 for candy and \$26,000,000 for chewing gum in a year, could we not spend at least half that amount for missions? Christians do not eat all this candy and they do not chew all this gum, but their children eat a good portion of it and chew their full share of the gum.

It is estimated that in the late Boxer movement in China 5,000 native protestant Christians were killed, and over 20,000 Roman Catholics.

During the year 1900 the Marathi mission baptized more converts than during the previous sixty-three years, while thirty villages begged for Christian schools, and seventy villages sent complaints that the gospel is not preached among them. With such appeals for the gospel, what will be the responsibility of those who have no interest in missions and who give nothing of the thousands with which God has blest them?

Speaking of the progress of missions in Africa, Mr. Henry M. Stanley says: When I was at Lake Victoria Nyanza, eighteen years ago, there was not a missionary there. Now there are forty thousand Christian natives and two hundred Christian churches. The natives are enthusiastic converts. They would spend their last penny to acquire a Bible.

Dr. A. T. Pierson says he believes there ought to be education in missions from the cradle, and then, as the child's heart and mind are inspired with a desire for the uplifting of mankind, the fire should be fed with fuel appropriate to the measure of the child's intelligence.

Among the Churches

Communion Notice

There will be communion services at the Union Salem church April 17. A general invitation is extended.
B. F. FLORA.

Up the Shenandoah

Pursuant to a call from the Mt. Olive church, Va. thru Brother Van Lear, I left my home March 4th (after the flood) to hold a ten days' meeting in the far-famed valley of the Shenandoah. It was our first trip to this place and we were eager to respond to their earnest entreaty to break to them the "bread that sustaineth."

After enjoying (?) snowbanks for five weeks in "old Somerset" and having various experiences with grim winter and a dash of rain and flood, we had hoped for fair weather and a good meeting. But ere far on our journey flakes of snow gently fell, betokening a southern snow blizzard. Lateness of trains caused us to be sidetracked at Hagerstown over night, when lo! the next morning 12 to 15 inches of snow and still "at it" blocked our way with belated trains and encouraging (?) news from the direction of our destination more of it than at Hagerstown. Turn back? No. The words of Jesus to one of the three candidates for the kingdom were not far from appropriateness. "No man, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God"—neither to preach his gospel of salvation. Only three hours late was the fault of our train. Brother Englehay met us at the train and escorted us to his home and after a warm repast conveyed us thru the deepest snow of the winter (about 14 inches) to Brother Van Lear's home for the night, near the church. It at once was plain to us impossible to hold a series of meetings with such snow and mud. Well I never saw such mud and I've traveled in ten states (Chicago too, Brother Cassel). Held four services and closed Sunday eve for above sufficiently named reasons.

Impressions. A field ripening for the harvest. Who will go? Laborers are few. Pastorless churches, unsaved by the score ready to hear the Word. A kinder, more hospitable people one seldom meets. A rich farming country, none better, affording means to do the work. It seems to have been a much neglected field. Ravages of the war to recover from may have retarded the work, no doubt. It does occur to me that every district ought to have an evangelist in the field all the time, *overseeing* and supplying weak points. Again why can there not be enough of the love of Christ in our hearts to banish prejudice, little grievances, petty jealousies and congregations circuit their work and two or four or even more if need be, join together and employ one pastor who can give his whole time to the work of the Master. This will fit in many places in the Brethren church and is one hindering cause to the growth of our church. We trust while our visit was entirely too brief, may result in some good, cheering some soul Zionward. Our home was at brother Luther Good's where we were kindly entertained. Our especial thanks are due them as well as Brother Van Lear's and others. May a kind Providence guide them as a church to usefulness for his name's sake. We were kindly asked to pay them a visit this fall under more favorable conditions.

Dayton, Va. At Dayton we were met at the train by our old friend and co-laborer sister Laura, together with Brother Hedrick and daughter Lena, as our new friends. Remaining over night, we were kindly entertained and spent the time very profitably, recalling reminiscences of church work in Indiana and especially of old Clinton County, our birthplace and where sister Laura held a very successful meeting at the Edna Mills church.

Our visit all in all in the beautiful Shenandoah was enjoyed and we thank God for the many blessings received during the entire week. May

the Holy Spirit guide these and all God's children.
L. A. HAZLETT.

Elk Lick, Pa.

Falls City Items

Today, March 24th, we are on our way home from a short mission work in Sabetha, Kans., but having a wait of almost twelve hours here at Hiawatha before a train can be had to carry us to Falls City, I thought to improve the time by writing a few items.

I am tempted to inquire if Job's patience would not have been sorely tried in these modern days of fast travel and long waiting? I am also tempted to moralize on our great loss in moral, religious and eternal things by those who are always like (the) my train behind time but I am not writing a sermon.

Our work in Falls City has been much retarded by sickness the last month, still the work goes on with increased interest and attendance upon the midweek prayer meeting and the Endeavor Sunday evening meetings. We are very earnestly working together using every known means to accelerate our work and to accomplish more for the Master. Two recent moves in that direction are a "teachers' meeting" and requiring our Sunday school teachers to personally visit pupils who are absent from their classes.

All but three of our converts from the union meetings have been baptized, two of the three have been prevented on account of sickness. They will be baptized soon.

Brother Sam Lichty occupied the pulpit at Silver Creek yesterday and we predict an inspiring and encouraging talk, one that will bring help for our struggling missions. Since the first of November, 1901, there have been baptized in this congregation twenty-two persons and five who have returned to Christ and the church from their wandering.

For some months the Sabetha brethren have been soliciting me to come over and give them some help. The Falls City church very kindly gave me permission to use my time over the 23d inst. to grant their request. Accordingly we landed at the station in Sabetha on Saturday afternoon. Preached for them that evening in the Baptist church. On Sunday morning we held services at the residence of Brother Barnes and in the evening at the home of Brother Eakens. These services were held in the homes because no other place could be procured. It was a great pleasure to meet these brethren and to worship with them. What was accomplished in these meetings I will let their correspondent tell. What I desire to do is to tell my brethren of this district what the outlook at Sabetha seems to be. Tho not strong numerically nor financially yet the brethren at Sabetha have gone to work in great earnest to revive the cause of the church at that place. I was very greatly pleased with their courage and their plans. I am fully persuaded that they are pursuing the right way to success. A convenient place to hold services is an absolute necessity toward doing an effective work in any community. Few people will join a travelling church. A house of worship gives assurance of permanence as well as a church home. There is at Sabetha abundance of material out of which to build a strong and influential membership. What this church now needs is the hearty and practical support of the district. The way to make a success of our district work is not to work at a dozen points periodically but continually at a dozen if we can, but if not then at one or two. Concentrate all our force till they become self-supporting. Because the Sabetha church has already begun I feel it to be our duty to stay with them till they succeed which I feel confident will not be long. The Falls City church has set a good example by giving their pastor one Sunday to work for Sabetha. May other churches do likewise. May the Lord greatly bless his children everywhere.

L. W. DITCH.